

BOROUGH OF LOUGHBOROUGH.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1940-----
INTERIM REPORT.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Loughborough.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present herewith my 4th Annual
Report on the Health of your Borough.

As was the case last year, in conformity with the
Ministry's request, this report is in the nature of an
interim report and deals mainly with the changes which
have taken place during the year.

Loughborough being a reception area, a considerable
expansion of the work of the Department, particularly in
relation to Maternity & Child Welfare, has been necessary.
Fortunately, the Committee's progressive policy in respect
of their Welfare Services in normal times has lightened
considerably the extra burden and made expansion a
relatively easy matter. Having premises at Lemyngton
Street, and also more recently at Shelthorpe, devoted
exclusively to Welfare Work, it has been possible to
arrange additional clinics without the difficulties of
finding suitable accommodation which would otherwise have
arisen at a time when every available building was being
utilised to its full capacity.

I wish here to express my deep appreciation of the
way in which the voluntary workers have shouldered the
extra work involved in attending at these additional
sessions.

In February the Committee decided to appoint a
third Health Visitor, and following the influx of evacuees,
the Ministry sanctioned the appointment of an additional
temporary Health Visitor.

There is no evidence that the health of the population
as a whole has been adversely affected by the war, but the
old problem of the child who is minded under unsuitable
conditions while the mother goes to work has been intensified.
Increasing numbers of mothers are finding employment, and
many of the children are being left, during their absence,
in the charge of unsuitable persons. It is hoped that the
recently proposed Day Nurseries will remedy this.

In conclusion I wish to thank the Committee and
members of the staff for their willing support during a
very busy year.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. CAUTLEY HOLDERNESS

MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE

Loughborough being a reception area, there has been a considerable increase in the work of the Maternity & Child Welfare Services owing to the influx of expectant mothers and mothers with young children from the more vulnerable areas.

Maternity Services.

Under the Government Evacuation Scheme two emergency maternity hospitals have been opened where the confinements of women from certain evacuation areas are conducted. These are at Whatton House with 40 beds and Lockington Hall with 49 beds. The expectant mothers are brought from the evacuation areas usually at the 8th month of pregnancy, and the majority are billeted in Loughborough prior to confinement, and in order to ensure that they receive adequate ante-natal supervision considerable expansion of the existing ante-natal facilities has had to be made. Two additional ante-natal clinics have been started, and these are conducted by part-time Medical Officers. The cost is borne by the Government.

<u>Work of Municipal Midwives.</u>	<u>1939.</u>	<u>1940.</u>
Number of cases delivered :-		
Midwifery	77	84
Maternity	54	67

Number of Visits Made :-		
Ante-natal	1212	833
During puerperium	2254	2580

Ante-natal Clinic.

New Cases- Loughborough	94	83
Evacuees	-	282
Attendances- Loughborough	390	250
Evacuees	-	685
Cases referred to Dental Clinic	8	13

Child Welfare.

The branch Welfare Centre commenced at the Free Church Premises in Parklands Drive in 1938 was found to be so successful that the accommodation proved inadequate, and the Committee decided to establish the Centre at the Old Isolation Hospital in Ling Road. These premises are more conveniently situated for the area they are to serve, and the accommodation comprises main hall, kitchen, doctor's consulting room and food stores. A commodious pram shed is provided.

The reception of numbers of children under the age of 5 years from the evacuation areas has necessitated additional welfare sessions. A further weekly session, making three in all, is now held at Lockington Street, and an extra session, making two a week, is held at the Shelthorpe Centre.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Scarlet Fever.

54 cases of this disease were notified during the year, and of these 53 were removed to hospital. In three cases the diagnosis was not confirmed. There were no deaths and the number of cases was only one fifth of those recorded in the previous year. The cases occurred sporadically throughout the year and there was no suggestion of an epidemic.

Diphtheria.

72 cases of this disease were notified as compared with 161 in the previous year, and of these 70 were admitted to hospital. In 5 cases the diagnosis was not confirmed on further investigation. 3 deaths occurred from this disease. As in the case of scarlet fever, the cases were distributed fairly evenly throughout the year and no anxiety was felt with regard to the position.

Measles & Whooping Cough.

These diseases having been made notifiable in November 1939, a more accurate indication of their incidence could be obtained. The number of notifications received does not represent the total number of cases occurring, as only those cases seen by a medical practitioner are notifiable, and when the disease is known to be prevalent many parents do not call in a doctor unless there is doubt as to the diagnosis or the child is ill.

In common with the whole country, a sharp epidemic of measles occurred in the last quarter of the year, some 800 cases being notified in Loughborough during October, November and December. The total number of notifications for the year was 1037. Slightly more than half the cases occurred in children between 5 and 9 years old. Fortunately no deaths occurred from the disease. Home visits were paid by the Health Visitors in cases which came to notice where a doctor was not in attendance, and a leaflet giving instructions with regard to nursing and the prevention of spread of the disease was sent to all cases.

In contrast, only 21 cases of whooping cough were notified during the year. Two deaths attributable to this disease occurred, however, both being in children under 1 year of age.

Other infectious diseases presented no features calling for comment.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The number of children immunised during the year, as might be expected, was considerably less than the figure of the previous year, most of those who intended to apply having already done so. A total of 372 children were treated during the year, and of these 155 were under the age of 5 years.

The importance of diphtheria immunisation cannot be over-emphasised, and the matter is continually being pressed by the Health Visitors, School Nurses and Teachers to those who have not so far availed themselves of the facilities offered.

Sanitary Inspectors' Office,

Town Hall,

LOUGHBOROUGH.

August 1941.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1940.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough
of Loughborough.

Your Worship, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Thirty-second
Annual Report on the operations of the Sanitary Department for
the year ending December 31st 1940.

During hostilities, I am, in accordance with the request
from the Minister of Health, submitting a brief report upon the
essential work undertaken by the Department during the year.

The efficient and smooth working of the Department has
been continued and I would like to thank the Health Committee,
my assistants, and clerks for making this possible.

I am, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. BINTCLIFFE.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK CARRIED OUT.

Number of	notices issued	382
"	" " complied with	380
"	" houses re-inspected	2925
"	" house to house inspections	339
"	" infected houses visited	177
"	" rooms fumigated	195
"	" infected rooms sprayed	284
"	" lots of infected beds stoved at Farm	43
"	" " " destroyed at Farm	29
"	" drains and other inspections	10878
"	" complaints received	113
"	" communications re dust removals	49
"	" Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk shops inspections	836
"	" Factories inspected	222
"	" Outworkers inspected	203
"	" Tents, Vans and Sheds inspections	36
"	" Offensive trades	296
"	" Drains tested	140
"	" Smoke observations	22
"	" Samples of milk taken for Bact. examination	39
"	" Slaughterhouses inspected during office hours ...	273
"	" " " " evenings and Sundays	101
"	" Meat Stalls and Stores inspected	671
"	" Food Stores insp. other than where meat is kept .	410
"	" inspections under Housing Overcrowding Act	183
"	" premises treated for vermin	50
"	" Shops inspected	346
"	" Canal boats inspected	38

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT.

New drains laid	13
Drains taken out	10
" unstopped and cleansed	72
" ventilated and disconnected	8
Inspection chambers built	17
New gullies provided	8
Waste pipes of sinks disconnected	1
Sink waste pipes renewed or repaired	36
" " channels repaired	84
New sink stones provided	9
Baths and Washbasins disconnected	1
Drains tested by smoke, water or colour test	140
Water closets repaired	52
New water closets provided	16
Privies converted to pail closets	5
Pail closets converted to water carriage system	15
Yard surface repaired or paved	15
Rain water conductors repaired or fixed	282
Soft water cisterns cleansed	3
Windows and cords repaired	43
Floors repaired or concreted	18
Dirty houses cleansed	11
" cellars cleansed	1
Water or sewage removed from cellars	4
Roofs stripped and repaired	93
Ventilators repaired	2
Damp walls remedied	3
Plaster ceilings repaired	14
Plaster walls repaired	17
General internal and external defects remedied	110
Ashpits dispensed with	14
New dust-bins provided	30
Houses supplied with towns water	2
Houses supplied with internal supply in lieu of stand- pipe	2
Foodstores provided	5

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Total number in district at end of 1940 ... {a} Privies.. 31
 {b} Pails ...201
 {c} W.C's .11751

SANITARY INSPECTION.

Total number of	inspections	14354
"	" defects or nuisances discovered	
	(excluding smoke nuisances)	3523
"	" complaints received	113
"	" notices served :-	
	(a) Formal	25
	(b) Informal	357
"	" defects remedied after service of	
	notices	3519

The above inspections include those under the following headings :-

Housing inspection under Housing Act, 1936.
Inspection of drains, Factories & Bakehouses.
Inspection of Dairies, Cowsheds, Milkshops, Tents,
Vans and Sheds.
Slaughterhouses, Offensive Trades, treatment of
premises for vermin, Markets, Meatstalls and
Foodstores, other than where meat is kept, and
inspections under Shops Act.

WATER SUPPLY.

2 Wells were closed during the year, and internal supplies provided.

4 samples of water have been taken in the Hathern area and were found to be polluted and unfit for domestic use.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

MILK.

Total number of Retail Purveyors on Register 158
Number residing in the district including shopkeepers
registered for the sale of pastuerised and sterilised
milk in bottles only 149
Number of Retail Purveyors residing outside the district... 9
Total number of producers on Register including producers
who retail their own milk 39

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS 1923 & 1936.

Number of Certified Tuberculin Tested Producers in the
district 2
Number of Accredited Retailers in the district 7
Number of Accredited Bottlers Licensed in the district 3
Number of Certified Tuberculin Tested Retailers residing
outside the district retailing in the borough 1
Total inspections for all purposes 836

CONTRAVENTIONS FOUND.

Shopkeepers retailing bottled milk without being registered.. 6
Producers failing to Limewash Cowsheds at prescribed periods. 8
Retail Purveyors failing to have names and addresses inscribed
on vehicle in accordance with Sec.6 Milk and Dairies
Consolidation Act 1915 3
Number of Premises, Cowsheds, Dairies etc., where structural
alterations were carried out to meet the requirements of
the Milk and Dairies Orders 4

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

39 samples of milk have been submitted during the year for bacteriological examination and 89.74% were recorded as satisfactory. In the case of unsatisfactory results, frequent inspections have been made to the farms and dairies concerned and advice given to the farmer and Dairyman.

The milk supplied to the schools in the borough is submitted monthly for bacteriological examination and every three months for fat content, and the standard of the milk has reached a high level.

	No. of samples taken.	satis- factory	Not satis- factory.	% satis- factory.
1940	39	35	4	89.7
1939	62	53	9	85.5
1938	101	90	11	89.1
1937	82	71	11	87

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, ETC.,

The above acts are administered by the Leicestershire County Council and by the kind co-operation of the Chief Constable, Capt. C.E.Lynch-Blosse, and the inspector for the district, Supt.J.Darling, the following information has been supplied :-

Total number of samples taken	71
Total samples of milk taken	28
Total other samples	43

One person was proceeded against for selling Malt Vinegar not of the nature and substance demanded by the purchaser, and was fined £5 and costs.

MEAT AND FOOD CONTROL.

Centralised slaughtering of animals for food was introduced during the year, but a number of pigs were slaughtered for private consumption, all these animals being inspected at the time of slaughter.

KNACKERS YARDS.

68 inspections were made at the 1 Knackers Yard in the district and conditions were found to be at all times satisfactory.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS 1924.

During the period under survey the above regulations have been complied with by the butchers and slaughtermen, and up to the time when centralisation came into operation, 414 animals had been slaughtered in privately owned slaughterhouses. 398 visits were paid to slaughterhouses.

Inspection of Food stores etc.

No. of Meat stores etc. inspected	462
" " Shops, Meat stalls etc. inspected	379
" " premises where food (other than meat) is kept or prepared for sale	478

SUMMARY OF FOODS CONDEMNED.

Beef	87 stones.
Pork	7½ "
Mutton	1 "
Tinned Beef	8 tins.
Jellied veal	5 tins.
Ox tongue	3 tins.
Chicken and Ham Roll	3 tins.
Frozen Liver	3 stones.
Frozen Kidney	2½ "
Chitterlings	1 barrel.
Rabbits	133
Sausages	4 stones.
Bacon	23 "
Mackerel	4 "
Shrimps	24 bags.
Potatoes	18 cwts.
Tomatoes	6 baskets.
Eggs	69 dozen.
Margarine	2½ stones.
Butter	1 lb.
Dutch Cheese	2½ stones.
Apples	6 barrels.
Pineapples	56 tins.
Oranges	2 cases.

Disinfection.

128 premises were inspected for this purpose and effective results were obtained after treatment with vermicides.

House Disinfection.

No. of visits to infected houses.....	177
" " infected rooms fumigated.....	195
" " " " sprayed.....	284
" " lots of infected bedding steam disinfected.....	43
" " " " " destroyed.....	29

Where cases of notifiable diseases have been removed to Isolation Hospital, disinfection of the premises and clothing is carried out immediately. Where cases are isolated at home disinfection follows upon the receipt of notification from the medical practitioner that the patient is free from infection. Liquid disinfectant is supplied free to householders when such cases are notified ...

Offensive Trades.

19 Trades are registered with the Authority, 4 having closed during the year.

296 inspections have been made and no serious infringements were found.

Rats & Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

Inspections and interviews were made during the year. Advice has been sought by numerous people which has been readily given, and also supplies of bait have been issued in certain cases.

2d. per carcase brought to the Office, has been continued, and has resulted in 1,333 rats being destroyed at a cost of £11. 2. 2d

Shops Acts, 1912, 1913, 1928, 1934 & 1936.

346 inspections of shops have been made in the Borough in connection with Sanitary and washing accommodation, working conditions of shop assistants, and hours of employment of Young persons.

No legal proceedings were taken, but 2 persons were cautioned for non-compliance of the regulations.

Factories Act, 1937.

222 inspections have been made of the Factories in the district

A considerable number of alterations and improvements have been affected upon the service of informal notices.

No statutory action was found necessary.

Summary of Inspections.

Factories with mechanical power ...	21
" without " " ...	128
Bakehouse inspections ...	73

Outworkers.

203 outworkers were inspected during the year under survey.

The conditions continue to show signs of improvement with this business and only 3 cases of infectious disease were found, the necessary disinfection of premises and materials, followed upon receipt of the notification.

Miscellaneous.

Air Raid Precautions.

(1) Decontamination of Foodstuffs and Personal Clothing.

During the year 4 men of the Department were trained in the treatment of contaminated foodstuffs along with 12 men recruited from the various shops in the Town.

(2) Treatment of Civilian Clothing.

This branch of Air Raid Precautions is undertaken by the personnel of the Scavenging Department and all men have been trained in this work.

(3) Public Shelters.

The Department has been responsible for the cleaning of the sanitary pails in the shelters throughout the town, and during the winter months when the alerts were frequent they were emptied each morning.

SALVAGE.

SUMMARY OF RETURNS.

	Tons.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	£.	S.	D.
Waste Paper	331	7	1	-	1247.	1.	7.
Ferrous Metals	96	3	3	3	293.	17.	9.
Tins	58	15	2	-	109.	13.	3.
<u>Non-Ferrous Metals</u>							
Aluminium	2.	8	-	20	24.	6.	-
Copper		16	2	19	27.	4.	-
Brass		2	-	10	2.	11.	6.
Zinc			1	22		4.	-
Lead		2	-	2	1.	9.	7.
Bones	4	7	5	-	15.	5.	9.
Rags	2	9	6	-	14.	1.	8.
Condemned Meat		1	3	4		11.	3.
Kitchen Waste	128	-	-	-	217.	-	-
Manure	849	-	-	-	68.	4.	-
Reclaimed milk bottles			104½	dozen	2.	3.	-

£2023. 13. 4.

